



STATE OF HAWAII
DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
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**Testimony in SUPPORT of S.B. 1525, SD1
RELATING TO HOME CARE AGENCIES**

REPRESENTATIVE JOHN M. MIZUNO, CHAIR
HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HEALTH

Hearing Date: Tuesday, March 12, 2019

Room Number: 329

1 **Fiscal Implications:** None

2 **Department Testimony:** Thank you for the opportunity to testify in SUPPORT of this bill to
3 rescind the repeal of the Home Care Agency licensing requirement.

4 Home care agencies provide home care services to persons who wish to remain
5 independent and in their own homes rather than to live in residential care homes or institutional
6 facilities. Home care services are defined as personal care or homemaker services. These
7 include assisting the client with toileting, showering and grooming, meal preparation, routine
8 house cleaning, shopping for household supplies or for food, running errands, escorting clients to
9 medical care appointments, and assisting with simple health care routines such as reminders to
10 take oral medication, diet restrictions, or to perform recommended exercises.

11 State licensing provides regulatory oversight to ensure public and client safety. It
12 requires background checks on owners, management and staff, and requires the caregivers to
13 receive instructions and oversight from the home care agency supervisor.

14 The Department implemented the licensing program in October 2018 based on Section
15 321-14.8 Hawaii Revised Statute (HRS) and Chapter 11-700 Hawaii Administrative Rules

(HAR). Forty seven (47) applications were received and are being processed and one (1) license has been issued to Ohana Care Maui LLC effective 2/13/2019 for two (2) years. Additional licenses will be issued once final paperwork is completed by the applicants and licensing fees are paid.

Home Care Agency licensing ensures client safety and, therefore, should be maintained. It is also important to note the effective date on this bill. The bill must be effective before the repeal date. As a result, the Department SUPPORTS this bill as drafted including the June 29, 2019, effective date.

Thank you for the opportunity to testify.

Offered Amendments: None

LATE

SB-1525-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 11:33:11 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/12/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Melodie Aduja	O`ahu County Committee on Legislative Priorities of the Democratic Party of Hawai`i	Support	No

Comments:

LATE

SB-1525-SD-1

Submitted on: 3/11/2019 4:56:56 PM

Testimony for HLT on 3/12/2019 9:00:00 AM

Submitted By	Organization	Testifier Position	Present at Hearing
Andrea Quinn	Individual	Support	No

Comments:

Dear Honorable Committee Members:

Please support SB1525.

Thank you for your time.

Andrea Quinn

Kihei

TO: Health Chair Rep. John Mizuno, Vice Chair Rep. Kobayashi and Members of the Committee

DATE: March 12, 2019 Tuesday

TIME: 9:00 AM

PLACE: Conference Room 329

TESTIFIER: Wannette Gaylord

BILL: SB 1525 SD1

POSITION: IN STRONG SUPPORT

LATE

Aloha Chair Mizuno, Vice Chair Kobayashi and Committee Members,

My name is Wannette Gaylord and I strongly support SB 1525 SD 1. I believe anyone providing services to the elderly or disabled should be licensed and monitored by the state of Hawaii to ensure the safety and well-being of these vulnerable individuals.

Our state is being overrun by over 200+ unlicensed care homes, saying that they are providing care as a home care agency. We must give the Department of Health the latitude to be able to enter these unlicensed homes to do investigations to ensure the safety and well-being of our kupuna.

Thank you for understanding my major support for SB 1525 SD1.